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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/799,323

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EXAMINER

BIBBINS, LATANYA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2627

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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2 MONTHS

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/799,323

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Examiner

LaTanya Bibbins

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on March 12, 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5, & 6 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Priority*

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### *Specification*

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because of its undue length. Applicant is reminded of the proper format for an abstract of the disclosure. The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet **within the range of 50 to 150 words**. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

### *Claim Objections*

3. Claims 2-4 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 2 recites "an **interval** frame synchronization signal output unit." Replacing "an **interval** frame synchronization signal output unit" with "an **internal** frame synchronization signal output unit" is suggested. Appropriate correction is required.

***Reasons for Allowance***

4. Claims 1-6 are allowable over the prior art of record. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

**Regarding claims 1 and 5**, none of the references of record, alone or in combination, suggest or fairly teach **“a first output unit, which outputs a frame synchronization signal in response to the internal frame synchronization signal and the second valid synchronization signal, wherein the main frame synchronization signal generator stops generating the first insertion synchronization signal in response to the second valid synchronization signal, and detects and outputs the first valid synchronization signal as the internal frame synchronization signal”** in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

***Citation of Relevant Prior Art***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Applicant's Admitted Prior Art clearly discloses an apparatus, which detects a frame synchronization signal from a digital data signal reproduced from an optical disc,

the apparatus comprising: a synchronization signal detector, which detects and outputs a synchronization signal from the digital data signal; a main frame synchronization signal generator, which detects and outputs a first valid synchronization signal from the synchronization signal, and generates and outputs a first insertion synchronization signal if the first valid synchronization signal is not detected during a predetermined first time period (see Figure 2).

Although Yamamoto et al. (US Patent Number 6,577,569 B1) teaches an apparatus which detects a frame synchronization signal from a digital data signal reproduced from an optical disc (see Figure 1), the apparatus comprising: a synchronization signal detector, which detects and outputs a synchronization signal from the digital data signal (see Figure 1 element 6); and a main frame synchronization signal generator (see Figure 1 elements 71, 72, 80, and 81), which detects and outputs a first valid synchronization signal from the synchronization signal as an internal frame synchronization signal, and generates and outputs a first insertion synchronization signal as the internal frame synchronization signal, if the first valid synchronization signal is not detected during a predetermined first time period (see the description of the synchronization signal generation in column 4 lines 63-67 and further in column 5 lines 1-43); Yamato fails to disclose a sub frame synchronization signal generator. Specifically one which detects and outputs a second valid synchronization signal from the synchronization signal while the main frame synchronization signal generator generates the first insertion synchronization signal.

Shimizume et al. (US Patent Number 4,797,192) teaches an apparatus which detects a frame synchronization signal from a digital data signal reproduced from an optical disc (Figure 3), the apparatus comprising: a synchronization signal detector, which detects and outputs a synchronization signal from the digital data signal (see Figure 3 element 34) and a main frame synchronization signal generator, which detects and outputs a first valid synchronization signal from the synchronization signal as an internal frame synchronization signal (see the signal MSYNC in Figure 3), and generates and outputs a first insertion synchronization signal as the internal frame synchronization signal, if the first valid synchronization signal is not detected during a predetermined first time period (see the ISYNC signal in Figure 3). Shimizume, however, fails to teach disclose a sub frame synchronization signal generator. Specifically one which detects and outputs a second valid synchronization signal from the synchronization signal while the main frame synchronization signal generator generates the first insertion synchronization signal.

### ***Conclusion***

This application is in condition for allowance except for the formal matters described above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LaTanya Bibbins whose telephone number is (571) 270-1125. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on 571 272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
LaTanya Bibbins  
Patent Examiner

  
WAYNE YOUNG  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER